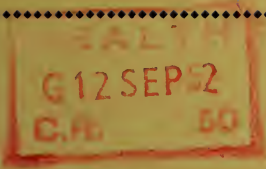


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Ashby-de-la-Zouch
Urban District Council

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH



FOR THE YEAR 1951

Ashby-de-la-Zouch
Urban District Council

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1951

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health 1951

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

(1) *Medical Officer of Health (part time) :*

A. McM. W. SEGERDAL, M.D., D.P.H.

(2) *Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector (full time) :*

THOMAS H. FARRELL, M.S.I.A., M.R.San.I.,

D.P.H.H. (Hons).

*To the Chairman and Members of the Ashby-de-la-Zouch
Urban District Council.*

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Annual Report for the Year 1951.

According to the Registrar General's estimate the population has decreased slightly from 6,552 (1950) to 6,405 (1951).

The birth rate (15.4) is lower than last year (19.2) and almost the same as that for England and Wales (15.5).

The death rate (11.7) is almost the same as last year (11.6) and lower than that for England and Wales (12.5).

The chief causes of death are from diseases associated with elderly people, and again the numbers in this group are proportionately higher than last year.

During the year there has been a serious and sustained shortage of water. The Derwent Valley Water was nearing completion towards the end of the year.

The New Packington sewerage scheme has been re-opened and is under consideration.

Alterations to washing accommodation and provision of drinking fountain at the Junior School, North Street, it will be noted, were carried out during the year.

The total number of applicants for Council houses at the end of the Year was 380, and the number of applications received during the year was 39. 38 houses were completed during the year, 36 by the local authority, and 2 by private enterprise. The total number of post war houses completed up to 1951 was 203.

210 Cases of Infectious Diseases were notified during the year, of these 178 were Measles and 21 Whooping Cough. Measles was prevalent during the months of February, March and April, and there were 25 cases in Blackfordby.

I am pleased to report that the numbers being immunised has increased, both those receiving primary immunisation, and a " booster " dose.

6 cases of Tuberculosis, all, Pulmonary were notified during the year, and the numbers on the register has showed a rise for the fifth year in succession.

I should like to express my thanks to the Public Health Department of the County Council for their help and co-operation.

Finally it remains for me to express my appreciation to Mr. T. H. Farrell, Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector, for his invaluable help during the year, and to you Ladies and Gentlemen for your kindness and co-operation.

I remain, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A. McM. W. SEGERDAL, M.D., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A

General Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area

Area	6,190 acres.
Population (Registrar General's estimate) ..	6,405
Number of Inhabited Houses	1,990
Rateable Value (at 31/12/51)	£37,635
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£150 0s. 8d.
Comparability factor—Births	1.07
Deaths	0.99

Ashby-de-la-Zouch is a market town, the chief industries of the District are:—Agriculture, Biscuit making, Soap Manufacturing and Glove Manufacturing. A number of workers engaged in Coalmining, Earthenware and Brickmaking are residents in the town. There is a camp for Displaced Persons. There are also two Public Parks and an Open-Air Swimming Bath in the town. No industry was noted as having a specially injurious effect on the health of the population.

Vital Statistics

LIVE BIRTHS :					<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Legitimate .. .. .	..	..	..	..	94	50	44
Illegitimate .. .. .	..	..	..	..	5	2	3
					<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total .. .. .	..	..	..	..	99	52	47
					<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Live Birth Rate—15.4 per 1,000 population.

England and Wales Birth Rate—15.5 per 1,000 population.

STILL BIRTHS :					<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Legitimate .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1	1	0
Illegitimate .. .. .	..	..	..	..	0	0	0
					<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1	1	0
					<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Still Birth Rate.—0.15 per 1,000 population.

England and Wales Still Birth Rate.—0.36 per 1,000 population.

DEATHS :					<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
					75	37	38

Death Rate.—11.7 per 1,000 population.

England and Wales Death Rate.—12.5 per 1,000 population.

Causes of Death in 1951

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Tuberculosis, respiratory	0	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	0	2	2
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ..	2	0	2
Malignant neoplasm, breast	0	3	3
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	2	4	6
Vascular lesions of nervous system ..	4	5	9
Coronary disease, angina	2	3	5
Hypertension with heart disease	2	0	2
Other heart disease	14	8	22
Influenza	1	1	2
Pneumonia	0	2	2
Bronchitis	1	1	2
Other diseases of respiratory system ..	1	1	2
Ulcer of stomach and Duodenum	1	1	2
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	0	1
Congenital malformations	0	1	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ..	5	4	9
Motor vehicle accidents	1	1	2
	—	—	—
	37	38	75
	==	==	==

Death Rate from Total Maternal Causes per 1,000 Live and Still Births—0. (England and Wales 0.79).

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age :—

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Legitimate	4	2	2
Illegitimate	0	0	0
	—	—	—
Total	4	2	2
	==	==	==

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age—40.3 per 1,000 Live Births.
(England and Wales)—29.6 per 1,000 Live Births.

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age :—

					<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	3	2	1
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	0	0	0
					—	—	—
					3	2	1
					=	=	=

Chief Causes of Death in 1951 :—

Heart Disease	..	..	..	..	38
Malignant Neoplasm (all forms)	..	..	..	..	13

SECTION B

General Provisions of Health Services for the Area

HOSPITALS

All hospitals are under the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board, with the exception of a few private Maternity and Nursing Homes. The County Homes for aged and infirm people are under the County Council. When they become ill they are the responsibility of the Hospital Board.

TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS

Infant Welfare Clinics are held every Thursday afternoon at the Baptist Schoolroom, Ashby. An Ante-natal Clinic and Tuberculosis Clinic is held at the Health Centre, Bridge Road, Coalville. The Tuberculosis Clinic is under the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES

The County Council is responsible for all ambulance facilities in the County. Colliery accidents are removed by Ambulances provided by the National Coal Board stationed at Nailstone Colliery and Moira Colliery.

NURSING IN THE HOME

All District Nursing and Midwifery in the home is under the County Council. A Diabetic Health Visitor attends the Clinic at the Royal Infirmary, Leicester, and visits the patients in their homes.

HEALTH VISITING

This work is provided, as before, by the County Council, and is ably carried out in the Area.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

The Public Health Laboratory, Isolation Hospital, Groby Road, Leicester

The examinations performed on behalf of the District in the County Laboratory are as follows :—

Throat and nose swabs	..	..	..	1
Milk	..	..	..	16
Water	..	..	..	1
Ice-cream	..	..	..	10
Sputa	..	..	..	14
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	1
				—
Total	..	..	..	43
				==

SECTION C

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Water Supply.

The water supply of the district has been satisfactory. There was, however, a serious deficiency.

Steps have been taken to remedy this serious and sustained shortage. The supply has been unable to cope with consumption. The public mains have been turned off from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. each night.

Contract work on the Derwent Valley Scheme is in progress.

Samples of piped supplies were taken by the Joint Water Board and were satisfactory. None were taken by this Council.

The water exhibits no plumbo-solvent properties.

Particulars of Water Supply to Dwelling Houses in the District—

Internal Mains Water Supply—

No. of Dwelling Houses, 2,028. Population, 6,120.

Mains Water from External Standpipes—

No. of Dwelling Houses, 90. Population, 360.

Well Water Supply—

No. of Dwelling Houses, 18. Population, 72.

Apart from a few isolated dwellings on the outlying parts of the area the whole of the Council's district is supplied with water from the public mains.

Number of parishes with a piped water supply—

(a) From Public Mains—Whole area.

(b) From Private Reservoirs—Nil.

Number of Parishes without a piped water supply—Nil.

Number of cases in which Pipe supply was substituted for Well Water—17.

No extensions of the Public Water supply were carried out in 1952.

No samples were taken for analysis for water supplies from wells.

There are still a few wells in use.

Number of Wells closed—Nil.

Number of Wells cleansed—One.

Blackfordby—Certain houses previously taking spring water are now connected to public mains.

Post-War Proposals.—The Derwent Valley Scheme was nearing completion towards the end of the year.

Sewage Disposal.

Number of cesspools constructed during the year—Nil.

Number of cesspools abolished during the year—15.

Total number of cesspools in District on 31st December, 1951—73.

Particulars of any extension during the year :—

(a) Sewerage.—During the year sewerage of Blackfordby was completed.

(b) Other than New Packington, rest of area well sewered.

(c) Scheme prepared for sewerage New Packington which will affect 28 houses.

Post-War Proposals

New Packington scheme has been re-opened and is under consideration.

Closet Accommodation

Total number in District on 31st December, 1951 :—

(a)	Privies	..	..	..	..	36
(b)	Pail closets	..	..	..	..	28
(c)	Water closets	..	..	..	..	1,449

Number of closets converted to the water carriage system during the year :—

(a)	Privies	..	..	..	..	5
(b)	Pail closets	..	..	..	..	7

No grant is made towards the cost of conversion.

Number of privies (middens) converted to pail closets during the year : Nil.

Earth closets, privies, ashpits and cesspools are cleansed by Council labour and disposed of on arable land and ploughed in.

Pail closets are emptied weekly by direct labour and disposed of on arable land and ploughed in.

Public Cleansing

House refuse is removed weekly by direct labour over the whole of the area. Two Karrier Bantam lorries are used.

There is no special scheme for trade refuses in operation.

Disposal of House Refuse :—

(a)	Number of controlled tips	..	..	..	..	2
(b)	Number of crude tips	..	..	..	..	0
(c)	Incineration	..	..	..	..	0

Sanitary Inspection of the Area

(a)	Total number of complaints received	..	..	..	..	360
(b)	Total number of premises at which defects or nuisances were dealt with	..	..	..	..	421
(c)	Total number of defects or nuisances dealt with	..	..	..	..	583

Particulars of Inspections Made

	<i>Number of Inspections</i>
Animal Keeping	18
Bakehouses	3
Dairies	12
Drainage Works	56
Dwelling-houses (all purposes)	69
Food Premises	16
Offensive Trades	1
Refuse Collection and Disposal	40
Rodent Control	118
Schools	3
Shops	8
Slaughter-Houses and Meat Inspection	Nil
Smoke Observations	18
Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.	2
Verminous and Dirty Premises	4
Water Supplies	20
Workshops, outworkers, etc.	24
Other Inspections	9
	<hr/>
Total	421
	<hr/>

Notices

Preliminary Notices

	<i>Housing</i>	<i>Public Health</i>
Outstanding on 1st January, 1951	4	2
Issued during year	19	53
Complied with during year	16	37
Statutory action necessary	1	1
Outstanding 31st December, 1951	7	18

Statutory Notices

	<i>Housing</i>	<i>Public Health</i>
Outstanding on 1st January, 1951	0	4
Issued during year	0	3
Complied with during year	0	5
Outstanding 31st December, 1951	0	2
Summary Action : Number of summonses issued		0
Number of convictions obtained		0

Shops

Particulars of action taken during year under the provisions of the Shops Act, 1950.

	<i>Outstanding 1st Jan., 1951</i>	<i>Defects found</i>	<i>Defects remedied</i>	<i>Outstanding 31st Dec., 1951</i>
Sanitary				
Conveniences	0	3	3	0
Temperature	0	0	0	0
Ventilation	0	0	0	0
Washing Facilities	0	1	1	0

Camping Sites

Number of sites in area used for camping purposes during year—Nil.

Estimated maximum number of campers resident in area during summer season—Not known.

Number of licences issued for moveable dwellings, Section 269, Public Health Act, 1936—Nil.

Regulated Buildings

<i>Class of Building</i>	<i>No. in District</i>	<i>No. of Inspections</i>	<i>Action Taken</i>	<i>General Conditions</i>
Common Lodging				
Houses	Nil.	0	0	0
Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.	2	2	0	satisfactory
Canal Boats	Nil.	0	0	0
Offensive Trades	1	1	0	satisfactory

Eradication of Bed Bugs

Particulars of action taken :—

Number of Council Houses infested	..	..	..	0
Number of other dwelling houses infested	..	..	..	0
Number of houses disinfested	..	..	..	0

Zaldecide D.D.T. Spray and D.D.T. Fumigator are employed for disinfestation.

Carried out by Local Authority	..	..	..	0
Carried out by Contractor	..	..	..	0

The fumigant and/or insecticide used is D.D.T.

Pre-removal inspection by the Housing Manager ensure Tenant's belongings are free from vermin before removal to Council Houses.

The measures taken for the supervision of education of Tenants to prevent infestation or re-infestation is by re-inspection.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

Periodical inspection of the District, including test baiting of sewers and drains is undertaken. One Rodent Operator (part-time) is employed.

Schools

Schools Disinfected	0
---------------------	----	----	----	----	---

Alterations to washing accommodation and provision of drinking fountain at the Junior School, North Street, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, were carried out.

Swimming Baths and Pools open to the Public

No. in Area :—

(a) Publicly owned	..	..	..	..	1
(b) Privately owned	..	..	..	..	1

No. of Inspections	36
--------------------	----	----	----	----	----

The bath is emptied and cleaned periodically, chlorinated and continued flow of water through the bath.

SECTION D

Inspection and Supervision of Food

Ice Cream

Number of Premises registered :—

(a) Manufacture and retail	..	..	..	0
(b) Manufacture only	..	..	..	0
(c) Retail only	..	..	..	15

Number of Samples taken	0
-------------------------	----	----	----	---

Condition of storage of ice cream in district is of a fairly high order.

Milk Supply

Dairymen or Purveyors of Milk (other than cowkeepers)—

Number on Register	14
Number of Inspections made	11
Number of contraventions outstanding from previous year	0
Number of contraventions found during year ..	0
Number of contraventions remedied during year ..	0
Number of contraventions on 31st December, 1951 ..	0
Outstanding	0

Biological Milk Samples

None taken by the Urban District Council.

Milk Sampling

<i>Class of Milk</i>	<i>Total samples taken for bact. exam'n.</i>	<i>Number Satisfactory</i>	<i>Number Unsatisfactory</i>
Tuberculin Tested	0	0	0
Accredited ..	0	0	0
Pasteurised	0	0	0
Sterilized	0	0	0
Ordinary	0	0	0

Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulation, 1949.

Particulars of Licences issued :—

Dealers' Licences—Pasteurised	1
-------------------------------------	---

Milk (Special Designations) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949.

Particulars of Licences issued :—

Dealers' Licences—Distributor	1
-------------------------------------	---

Meat and Other Foods

No. of Regional Slaughter Houses in Area	Nil
No. of Animals slaughtered elsewhere	Nil
No. of Animals examined elsewhere	Nil
No. of inspections of meat at time of slaughter ..	Nil
No. of Knackers Yards in Area	1
No. of visits to Knackers Yards	3

Carcases Inspected and Condemned

Number inspected	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Number condemned	..	..	..	..	..	Nil

Meat Stalls

Number of Inspections	Nil
-----------------------	----	----	----	----	-----

Meat Shops, Meat Stores, etc.

Number of Inspections	23
-----------------------	----	----	----	----	----

Places where food (other than meat) is kept or prepared for sale

Number of Inspections	12
-----------------------	----	----	----	----	----

Model Byelaws, Series 1 (Ministry of Food)

Date of adoption by District Council, November, 1950.

SECTION E

Housing

A.—New Houses.

Houses completed during the year.

	<i>Permanent Type</i>	<i>Aver. Cost per House</i>	<i>Aver. Rent inclusive or exclusive of Rates</i>
By Local Authority	36	£1,500	19/8 inclusive
By Private Enterprise	2	£1,800	O/occupier

Houses in course of erection at end of year

By Local Authority	0	£1,500	—
By Private Enterprise	1	—	—

Total number of Post-War Houses completed

By Local Authority	..	..	..	..	..	184
By Private Enterprise	..	..	..	..	..	19

Applications for Council Houses

Total number at end of year	380
Applications received during the year	39

B.—Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year.

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	49
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ..	69
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	0
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ..	0
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	0
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ..	38

C.—Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	49
---	----

D.—Action under Statutory Powers during the Year.

(a) Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16, of the Housing Act, 1936

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	73
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By Owners	0
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	0
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts.	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ..	0

(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By Owners	0
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ..	0
(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	0
(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	0
(d) Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ..	0

E.—Housing Act, 1936—Part 4—Overcrowding :

(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at end of year ..	12
(2) Number of families dwelling therein	24
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein	72
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during year	0
(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during year	3
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases ..	12
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	0
(e) Any other particulars with respect to general housing conditions on which the Sanitary Inspector may consider it desirable to report	0

F.—Housing Summary.

Total number of houses occupied in District	1,990
Total number of Council Houses occupied in District	
Pre-War ..	162
Post-War ..	184
	<hr/>
	346
	<hr/>

G. Housing Act, 1949.

Number of Applications for reconditioning grants

.. 0

SECTION F

Prevalence of, and control over, Infectious Diseases Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during 1951

<i>Disease</i>			<i>Final numbers after correction</i>	<i>Cases admitted to Hospital</i>	<i>Total Deaths</i>
Scarlet Fever	..	..	1	1	0
Measles	..	..	178	1	0
Pneumonia	..	..	8	0	2
Whooping Cough	..	..	21	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	..		2	2	0
Diagnosis not confirmed	..		0	1	0
			—	—	—
			210	5	2
			==	==	==

Analysis Under Age Groups according to Registrar General's Return 118d

<i>Age Period</i>			<i>Scarlet Fever</i>	<i>Whooping Cough</i>	<i>Measles</i>
Under 1	..	..	0	2	4
1—2	..	..	0	4	41
3—4	..	..	0	2	47
5—9	..	..	0	8	82
10—14	..	..	1	3	2
15—24	..	..	0	2	1
25 and over	..	..	0	0	1
			—	—	—
			1	21	178
			==	==	==

<i>Age Period</i>					<i>Pneumonia</i>	<i>Puerperal Pyrexia</i>
Under 5	..	..	..	..	1	0
5—14	..	..	..	..	0	0
15—44	..	..	..	..	1	2
45—64	..	..	..	..	5	0
65 and over	..	..	..	..	1	0
Age unknown	..	..	..	..	0	0
					—	—
					8	2

Immunisation against Diphtheria

Number of Children who were immunised during the period
1st January—31st December, 1951

Age at 31/12/51 i.e. born in year	Under 1 1951	1 1950	2 1949	3 1948	4 1947	5 1946	6 1945	7 1944	Total
Primary Immunisation	10	57	6	3	1	1	—	—	78
Booster Dose	—	—	—	—	1	21	4	2	28

Estimated mid-Year Child Population 1951 :

0—4 years (inclusive)	..	..	..	525
5—14 years (inclusive)	..	..	..	888

Statement of Particulars appearing in the Tuberculosis Register for the year 1951

			<i>Pulmonary</i>			<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>			<i>Total</i>
			<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total</i>	
No. of cases on the Register at the commencement of year	..	11	6	17	2	2	4	21	
No. of cases notified during the year	..	4	2	6	0	0	0	6	
Number of cases restored to the Register	..	..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
No. of cases added other than by formal notification	..	..	0	1	1	0	0	0	1
No. of cases removed from Register during the year			0	1	1	0	0	0	1
No. of cases remaining on the Register at end of year	..	....	15	8	23	2	2	4	27

Causes of Removal

			<i>Pulmonary</i>		<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>	
			<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>
Died	..	..	0	1	0	0
			—	—	—	—
			0	1	0	0
			==	==	==	==

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1948

Resumé of Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of the Year 1951, previously sent to the Director of Statistics, Ministry of Labour and National Service, Headquarters, Orphanage Road, Watford, Herts.

Part I of the Act

1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)

<i>Premises</i>	<i>M/c Line No.</i>	<i>No. on Inspec- Register</i>	<i>tions</i>	<i>Written Occupier notices prosecuted</i>	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Factories in which sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	12	9	7	Nil
Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	2	29	15	6	Nil
Total ..	3	41	24	13	Nil
	—	—	—	—	—

2.—Cases in which defects were found

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions, they should be reckoned as two, three or more Cases).

Number of cases in which defects were found

		<i>Ref. to H.M.</i>		<i>Ref. by H.M.</i>	
<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Found</i>	<i>Remedied</i>	<i>Inspector</i>	<i>Inspector</i>	
Want of Cleanliness ..	5	5	0	1	
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	0	0	
(b) Unsuitable or defective ..	3	3	0	0	
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ..	1	0	0	0	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	
	10	9	0	1	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	

Part VIII of the Act

Outwork (Sections 110 and 111)

<i>Nature of work</i>	<i>No. of Outworkers in August list required by Sec. 110</i>	<i>No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council</i>	<i>No. of pros. for failure to supply lists</i>
Net Mending ..	1	0	0
	<i>No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises</i>	<i>Notices served</i>	<i>Prosecutions</i>
	0	0	0

